
News Release

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Veterans Expo to Be Held September 16 in Wytheville

WYTHEVILLE—An estimated 44,000 veterans live in Southwest Virginia and many of them may need and be entitled to VA benefits. Yet, they may not know that they are eligible for assistance.

The Virginia Department of Veterans Services (DVS) is reaching out to all veterans by hosting a Veterans Expo. The Expo will be held September 16, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the Wytheville Community Center, 250 South Fourth Street.

“Many of our veterans returning from Iraq and Afghanistan don’t even realize that they may be eligible for VA benefits,” said DVS Commissioner Vince Burgess. “This is especially true for members of the National Guard and reserves.”

The Expo will bring together dozens of local, state, and federal agencies that offer services that veterans and their families might need. DVS representatives will be on hand to talk to veterans and family members about possible eligibility for VA benefits. Other agencies will be available to provide information as well.

Invitations have been extended to state agencies such as the Virginia Employment Commission, the Virginia Housing Development Authority, the Departments of Labor and Industry, Social Services, and Rehabilitation Services. Federal agencies invited include the Social Security Administration, the Veterans Administration, and the Salem VA Medical Center. Veterans service organizations, such as the VFW, American Legion, and Marine Corps League

are on the invitation list as well as two- and four-year colleges and universities. Local agencies invited include Social Services and Cross Roads Shelter

“We want this event to educate our veterans and to let them know that DVS and many other organizations are there to help them create a better life for themselves and their families,” said Jason McNutt, a DVS benefits service representative. The event is for veterans of all ages and for anyone who served in any of the four branches of the military, including the National Guard and the Reserves. It is also for veterans’ spouses and children.

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Note: Commissioner Vince Burgess and Benefits Service Representative Jason McNutt are available for on-air interviews.